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It is also time to solve a number of organizational problems. It is necessary to concentrate the management of the new branch of industry in one place, creating a control center for all construction parts plants of the country.

MOSCOW LACKS PLANS FOR PREFABRICATED HOUSES -- Moscow, Moskovskaya Pravda, 22 Aug 50

Moscow builders have a great task ahead of them. In the near future, the yearly total of new housing space is to cover an area up to one million square meters, or two and a half times more than the total of new housing built in 1949. The fulfillment of this plan is possible only if a definite change-over is made to industrial construction methods. Industrial methods can be used successfully only on the basis of definite and detailed standard plans for apartment buildings and sections of buildings. All parts of a building, except brick walls, should be prefabricated at the plant.

Unfortunately, there are serious shortcomings in the planning of apartment houses and public buildings. There is still a lack of plans for apartment buildings, schools, kindergartens, and hospitals. The Ministry of City Construction and the Academy of Architecture USSR must take a more active part in the development of standard building plans. The transition to standard planning must go hand in hand with new technological construction methods.

The construction of prefabricated houses with the use of large, finished panels for walls, partitions and interstory floors, has a great future. Here are vast, creative possibilities for architects, designers and builders. The standard planning shop of "Mosgorproyekt" (Moscow City Planning) Trust has already started to work on this problem. An eight-story building is now under construction on Novo-Peschanaya ulitsa in Moscow; the framework of the building is made of prefabricated reinforced-concrete parts, and the walls and interstory floors and ceilings are made of hollow ceramic blocks. Ceramic tiles made by the Kuchino Plant are used to face the building. The framework, which supports the weight of interstory floors, makes it possible to build ceramic walls up to eight or ten stories high. This type of construction reduces the weight of the building, saves a large amount of bricks, and reduces freight transport. A prefabricated reinforced-concrete framework does not require the use of rolled metal.

EXPERIMENTAL HOUSE BUILT OF WATERPROOF PLYWOOD -- Leningradskaya Pravda, 13 Aug 50

An experimental prefabricated panel house using waterproof plywood as a construction material, has been constructed in Zelenogorsk, Leningrad Oblast. The panels were prefabricated at a plant. A house of this type can be assembled in several hours. A screen of aluminum foil is used for heat insulation, thus making it possible to reduce the thickness of walls to 11 centimeters.

NEW HOUSE-BUILDING PLANTS BUILT IN LITHUANIAN SSR, ARKHANGELSK OBLAST -- Moscow, Pravda, 28 Oct 50.

A new branch industry, prefabricated house-building, has developed in the Lithuanian SSR since the war. Three house-building combines have been organized: the Kaunas, Novo-Vil'nyaskiy, and Ukmerge combines. During 1950, they were expanded and equipped with new machinery. The Novo-Vil'nyaskiy Combine is manufacturing six-apartment, prefabricated houses for petroleum workers. Each apartment has two rooms and a kitchen. A special shop of the combine makes furniture for these apartments.

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Production of prefabricated houses at the Kaunas Combine has increased considerably since last year; at present this combine is manufacturing houses for construction workers of the Kuybyshev Hydroelectric Power Plant. The Ukmerge Combine has started mass production of one-story houses for new workers' settlements now under construction in Lithuania.

Moscow, Izvestiya, 27 Oct 50

A large plant for prefabricated house building is under construction in Kotlas, Arkhangel'sk Oblast. The plant is being built by the Ministry of Construction Materials Industry USSR.

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